

SABER E-HERALD

SPANGDAHLEM AB

NEWSLETTER OF THE 52ND FIGHTER WING

AUG. 17, 2012

Leadership discusses Spangdahlem A-10 operations

Keeping up base appearance instills pride in Sabers

Quarterly award winners

MPS protects ID card holders



CREW CHIEFS BATTLE FOR FIRST PLACE

Airman 1st Class Stephen Resimius, 480th Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief, secures a travel pod to an F-16 Fighting Falcon during a crew chief competition here Aug. 10. A select few crew chiefs from the 480th and 81st AMUs undergo a series of mental and physical trials to test their skills and knowledge during the competition. The winners earn bragging rights as the best maintenance unit until the next competition and also take home a wooden toolbox inscribed with the crew chief's creed as a trophy. View more photos at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123313938>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Gustavo Castillo/Released)

New USAFE commander shares priorities

1st Lt. Christine Guthrie
United States Air Forces in Europe
Public Affairs

Gen. Philip M. Breedlove, new U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander, outlined his priorities, vision, challenges and personal experiences during an interview at Ramstein Air Base Aug. 8.

"I am so proud of this command--our Airmen have accomplished so much in these past three years," said Breedlove, who left Ramstein in 2009 after serving as 3rd Air Force commander. "We have an incredibly huge mission here, taking care of two vastly different combatant commands in EUCOM and AFRICOM, on two huge continents span-

ning over 100 countries."

As fiscal constraints continue to be a concern throughout the Air Force, USAFE leadership is faced with balancing mission requirements and dwindling resources.

Breedlove comes to USAFE from Washington D.C. where he served as Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force and was responsible for a broad set of requirements and responsibilities. He managed major acquisition programs such as Joint Strike Fighter and the Long-Range Strike Bomber. No matter the project, his focus remained on accomplishing the Air Force mission in a constrained fiscal environment with limited resources.

Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123314154>.



SUPER SABER PERFORMER

Senior Airman Ben Knight, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron logistics planner, is the Super Saber Performer for the week of Aug. 16-22. Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123314306>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Gustavo Castillo/Released)



Roland Leu, 52nd Fighter Wing falconer, patrols the fields near Perimeter Road for rabbits July 31. Leu is the wing's only falconer and he uses his four falcons to hunt birds and rodents throughout the year. The falconer keeps rodent and bird populations clear of aircraft and helps reduce the amount of damage and cost of repairs done to aircraft. (U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Dillon Davis/Released)

FALCONER KEEPS AIRCRAFT IN FLIGHT

Airman 1st Class Dillon Davis
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 52nd Fighter Wing falconer's mission is to reduce bird and varmint populations to keep aircraft maintenance damages and repair expenditures to a minimum while improving safety for pilots.

Roland Leu, 52nd FW falconer, patrols the base multiple days per week to hunt and scare birds and varmints away from airfield operations areas.

According to Leu, in his 10 years as the base falconer, he has reduced the average amount of bird strikes on aircraft from 80 down to 15 strikes per year.

"There is a definite need for the falconer at this base to alleviate additional maintenance work hours and damage costs due to unnecessary bird strikes on 81st and 480th Fighter Squadron aircraft," said Master Sgt. James Rippy, 81st Aircraft Maintenance Unit NCO in charge of weapons.

Bird strikes on aircraft can range from simple cosmetic damages to major side-panel damages



Roland Leu, 52nd Fighter Wing falconer, throws his hunting falcon out of his patrol car on Perimeter Road here July 31.

and in extreme cases can result in engine loss.

Aircraft taking off and landing are highly susceptible to bird strikes because of the larger populations of birds in flight at lower altitude levels.

Read the entire article and view more photos at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123313805>.



Roland Leu, 52nd Fighter Wing falconer, straps a global positioning system on his hunting falcon near Perimeter Road here July 31.

Diversity Day to show Airmen unity

**Senior Airman
Natasha Stannard
52nd Fighter Wing
Public Affairs**

Spangdahlem Air Base's fourth annual Diversity Day takes place 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Aug. 23 at Club Eifel.

The theme of this year's day is "United Despite Uniqueness" and the purpose of the event is to recognize and represent all cultures and diverse groups here.

"We're united as a military culture and family," said Tech. Sgt. John Wade, 52nd Fighter Wing Equal Opportunity specialist, of the theme. "However, we don't want to hide or shadow the fact that people are unique within their specific culture."

The U.S. Air Force mandates awareness of nine cultures throughout the year; however, there are more than nine cultures to be recognized. This day gives Airmen the opportunity to

learn about cultures that are not recognized throughout the year, he said.

"I hope people go and learn something about all the different Airmen on this base and what each culture brings to the table and represents," said Master Sgt. Kimberly Marshall, Diversity Day chair member. "The best thing you can take away from all this is what you're willing to learn about who we work with everyday. It's definitely an educational experience if you take the time to go out and ask questions."

The day also gives Airmen a chance to reflect on all of the different cultures that make up the Air Force and its host nations.

"A lot of people want to be able to highlight within their culture what their food is and what their culture's about," Marshall said. "In essence, were allowing our Airmen to tell their story through their culture's eyes."

Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123314158>.

Critical Days of Summer tips to drive safe

**Maj. Walter B. Swain
606th Air Control Squadron**

Winter has long since come and gone, but some of the safety issues that arise during the winter months are also applicable during the Critical Days of Summer.

Safe driving is an issue we always need to think of, and while we know the Eifel region is famous for black ice during winter; we also need to remember during the summer months our region is known for rain storms that can adversely affect driving.

All roads, whether it's autobahn or a secondary road, can become slick after a rain storm. Airmen must remember this and slow down.

Vehicles can slip and slide on seemingly easy curves. Slowing down before entering the curve will allow the vehicle's tires to have maximum road grip throughout the curve. If the car starts to slide, the driver should take their foot off the accelerator and remember never to slam on the brakes.

Another way to avoid tragedy when driving in a rain storm is to drive defensively. This allows the driver to maintain situational awareness meaning they will notice the actions of other cars and drivers more quickly. The defensive driver is able to quickly and safely react to sudden road changes, such as pooling water or other swerving vehicles in a rain storm. Oftentimes, the best way to remain a defensive driver in deteriorating road conditions is to slow down, which allows extra time to notice sudden changes and react appropriately.

If drivers understand their road conditions, maintain awareness of their surroundings and react appropriately on the road, it will help the Air Force as well.

Slowing down and driving defensively could save your life as well as the lives of fellow Airmen and their families.

For more safe driving information, call the 52nd Fighter Wing Safety Office at DSN 452-7233 or 06565-61-7233.



RAF CADETS TOUR 52ND FW DURING EUROPEAN CULTURE TRIP

Staff Sgt. Aaron Otero-Bunker, 52nd Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller, talks to Royal Air Force cadets from Scotland and Northern Ireland about the mission of the air traffic controllers during a tour of the 52nd Fighter Wing Control Tower here Aug. 13. The cadets toured the 52nd Fighter Wing to better understand the various base organizations and their importance to the U.S. and NATO missions. View more photos at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123313986> .(U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Dillon Davis/Released)



Royal Air Force cadets from Scotland and Northern Ireland get a close-up view of an A-10 Thunderbolt II from the 81st Fighter Squadron during their tour inside Hangar 1 here Aug. 13.

What's happening?

Was ist los?

Wittlich Pig Festival

The annual Wittlich Pig Festival takes place Aug. 17-20. More than 200 pigs will be roasted, and there will be music, wine tastings, entertainment and an amusement park. For more information, visit <http://www.saeubrenner.com/>.

Middle Mosel wine festival

The Middle Mosel wine festival takes place Aug. 30-Sept. 3 in Bernkastel-Keus. Among the highlights are a fireworks display and a parade.

Bread and Circuses

Great Roman festival in Trier
Reserve your ticket now for the first Bread and Circuses Great Roman festival in Trier Aug. 31-Sept. 8. Activities will take place around the Roman Basilica, the Imperial Palace, the Roman Kaiserthermen Baths and the Trier Amphitheater. The ticket prices for different events ranges from 8-25 Euro. For more information, visit http://www.ticket-regional.de/stage_1006.php?eventtimeID=156631.

Bicycle tour

Happy Pruemtal Valley, a 28

kilometer bicycle tour, takes place Sept. 2 through the Pruem valley. For more information, visit <http://www.pruem.de/>.

Trier Play festival

A free play festival takes place annually in the streets of the Trier pedestrian zone under the motto "Trier plays games." This year's event is scheduled for Sept. 8. For more information, call 0651-4602638 or visit <http://www.trier.de>.

Funfair in Luxembourg

The 672nd Schueberfouer, the largest funfair in Luxembourg, takes place now until Sept. 11 at Glacis-field in Luxembourg city. The fair includes 25 major rides, more than 12 child rides, games, performers from different nations and more than 100 vendors. For more information, visit <http://www.fouer.lu/en/Schueberfouer.html>.

Wittlich October festival

The Wittlich October festival takes place Sept. 28-Oct. 31 in a large festival tent. For more information, visit <http://www.oktoberfest-wittlich.de>.

Movie in the park

A free showing of "The Lorax" takes place 8 p.m. Aug. 17 at the wing pavilion. In case of inclement weather the movie will be shown at the Brick House. For more information, call DSN 452-7260 or 06565-61-7260.

JPAC recovery volunteer

Volunteer now for Joint prisoner of war/missing in action Accounting Command recovery. Recoveries take place Aug. 22, and Sept. 1, 3, 10, 12 and 18 along the Belgian border. Recovery teams will meet 7:15 a.m. and return 5 p.m. at the Willkommen Center. This event will require manual labor. It is recommended to wear closed-toed shoes, long-sleeved clothing, pack a lunch, bring Euro cash and protective gear. For more information, visit <http://www.jpac.pacom.mil/index.php?page=home&size=100&ind=0>. To volunteer, call DSN 452-7438 or 06565-61-7438.

Diversity Day

Diversity Day takes place 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Aug. 23 at the enlisted club. There will also be a five kilometer run honoring the day beginning 7:30 a.m. at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center. The day's events will include music, food, games and a parade. For more information, call DSN 452-6392 or 06565-61-6392.

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